

What is claimed is:

1. An adapter to be placed between an endotracheal tube and bag-valve mask, the adapter comprising:
  - a housing containing a first tube for attachment to an endotracheal tube and a second tube  
5 for attachment to a bag-valve mask;
  - a carbon dioxide indicator within the housing, in gaseous communication with the endotracheal tube, and isolated from the atmosphere.
2. The adapter of claim 1 wherein the first tube has a tapered insertion end for fitting  
10 within an end of the endotracheal tube.
3. The adapter of claim 1 wherein the first and second tubes are axially aligned.
4. The adapter of claim 1 wherein the housing has orifice in the perimeter of the  
15 second tube, the carbon dioxide indicator covering the orifice, a barrier isolating the carbon dioxide indicator from the atmosphere.
5. The adapter of claim 1 wherein the second tube has an outside diameter between  
approximately 12mm - 20mm.  
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6. The adapter of claim 1 wherein the second tube has an outside diameter  
approximately 14mm.
7. The adapter of claim 4 wherein the orifice are spaced around the second tube and  
25 the carbon dioxide indicator surrounds the second tube over the orifice.
8. The adapter of claim 7 wherein the carbon dioxide indicator is a ring of chemically  
treated colorimetric indicator paper.  
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9. The adapter of claim 8 wherein the barrier is a clear ring.

10. The adapter of claim 9 wherein the clear ring has a C-shaped cross section defining an aperture for placing the carbon dioxide indicator.

11. A combination comprising:

5 an endotracheal tube;

an adapter having a housing containing a first tube attached to the endotracheal tube and a second tube for attachment to a bag-valve mask;

a stylet placed within the endotracheal tube and the adapter to provide temporary rigidity to the endotracheal tube.

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12. The combination of claim 11 further comprising a handle attached to the stylet to facilitate removal of the stylet from the endotracheal tube and the adapter.

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13. The combination of claim 12 wherein the handle interfaces the second tube to form a seal.

14. The combination of claim 11 further comprising a carbon dioxide indicator within the adapter housing.

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15. The combination of claim 14 wherein the housing has orifice in the perimeter of the second tube, the carbon dioxide indicator covering the orifice, a barrier isolating the carbon dioxide indicator from the atmosphere.

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16. The combination of claim 15 wherein the second tube has an outside diameter between approximately 12mm - 20mm.

17. A method of placing an endotracheal tube within a patient and testing for placement within the patient's trachea, the method comprising:

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providing a bag-valve mask and an endotracheal tube, an adapter attached to the endotracheal tube having a carbon dioxide indicator, a stylet within the endotracheal tube and the adapter;

placing the endotracheal tube within the patient;  
removing the stylet from the endotracheal tube and the adapter;  
placing the bag-valve mask upon the adapter and ventilating the patient;  
determining proper placement within the patient's trachea by observing the carbon dioxide  
5 indicator.

18. The method of claim 17 further comprising providing hermetically sealed  
packaging for an assembly of the endotracheal tube, the adapter, and the stylet;  
removing the assembly from the packaging.

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19. The method of claim 17 further comprising:  
providing a handle attached to the stylet and interfaced with the adapter to form an air-tight  
seal;  
gripping the endotracheal tube with one hand and pulling the handle to remove the stylet.

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20. The method of claim 17 further comprising the step engaging the bag-valve mask  
for one ventilation cycle.